

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - JANUARY 25

CINCUSNAVEUR FOR POLAD: USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

1. SUMMARY:

--CONCLUDING ACTIVITIES OF SECRETARY'S VISIT RECEIVE FRONTPAGE COVERAGE WITH PRAVDA PROMINENTLY CARRYING FINAL STATEMENT. RED STAR IN ADDITION REPORTS SECRETARY'S STOPOVER IN SPAIN AND SIGNING OF AGREEMENT ON US-SPANISH MILITARY COOPERATION, INCLUDING WITHDRAWAL OF US SUBMARINES FROM ROTA.

-- EXCEPT FOR FAVORABLE TREATMENT OF US-SOVIET AGRICULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT, REMAINING US COVERAGE EMPHASIZES NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF US LIFE AND CONTINUING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

-- DISCUSSIONS OF DETENTE IN WEEKEND PRESS FOCUS ON RENEWED ACTIVITIES OF COLD WARRIORS.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL REPORTING INCLUDES:

-- LEBANESE COVERAGE THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME PERCEIVES GLIMMER OF HOPE THAT LATEST CEASE-FIRE WILL HOLD.

-- CRITICAL DISCUSSION OF CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE PATTERNS AND TERSE ANNOUNCEMENT OF PEKING'S LATEST NUCLEAR TEST.

-- PORTRAYAL OF MPLA IN ANGOLA AS CONSOLIDATING CONTROL, BUT WITH SOME DISPLAY OF CONCERN OVER POSSIBILITY OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION IN FORCE. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARY'S VISIT. WEEKEND CENTRAL PRESS FRONTPAGED TASS REPORTS OF CONTINUING TALKS BETWEEN GROMYKO AND SECRETARY AND TEXT (IN PRAVDA JANUARY 24) OF FINAL STATEMENT. SECRETARY'S LUNCH FOR GROMYKO AND DEPARTURE REPORTED BRIEFLY ON INSIDE PAGES.

3. REST OF US COVERAGE TENDS TO STRESS NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF US LIFE, INCLUDING RACE RIOTS IN BOSTON AND CONTINUING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. IZVESTIYA JANUARY 23, HOWEVER, REPORTS SIGNING OF US-SOVIET AGRICULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT INVOLVING TOUR OF SOVIET AGRICULTURE BY YOUTH 4-H DELEGATION AND INCLUDING PRAISE OF AGREEMENT BY SECRETARY
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OF AGRICULTURE EARL BUTZ.

4. RED STAR JANUARY 25 ONLY PAPER TO REPORT SECRETARY'S VISIT TO SPAIN AND SIGNING OF NEW US-SPANISH AGREEMENT REPLACING AGREEMENT OF 1953. IT NOTES THAT PUBLIC PRESSURE IN SPAIN FORCES US TO AGREE TO WITHDRAW POLARIS-ARMED SUBMARINES FROM ROTA.

5. PODKLYUCHNIKOV'S INTERNATIONAL REVIEW IZVESTIYA JANUARY 25 CON-

TRASTS UNITY OF SOCIALIST COMMUNITY AND SOVIET PREPARATIONS FOR 25TH CPSU CONGRESS WITH ECONOMIC DISARRAY IN WEST. CITING LATEST FIGURES (SOURCE UNSPECIFIED) ON STATE OF ECONOMIES IN DEVELOPED CAPITALIST STATES, HE REFUTES CLAIMS OF BOURGEOIS ECONOMISTS THAT PAST YEAR'S CRISIS IS BEING OVERCOME. THESE FIGURES, HE ASSERTS, SHOW THAT THE DECLINE CONTINUES, WITH TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT REACHING 17.1 MILLION, THE LARGEST FIGURE SINCE THE CRISIS OF 1929-33. TURNING TO THE USSR'S DETENTE POLICIES AND SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW HE SUMMARIZES LANGUAGE OF JOINT STATEMENT AND ADDS THAT SOVIET POSITION ON SALT AND MBFR QUESTIONS IS WELL-KNOWN: POSITIVE RESULTS WILL BE FORTHCOMING IF PARTICIPANTS DO NOT SEEK UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE BY ACTIONS DISRUPTING EXISTING BALANCE OF POWER. DETENTE, MOREOVER, CONTINUES TO FACE DISRUPTIVE EFFORTS OF COLD WARRIORS, SUCH AS THOSE IN NATO, IN ENGLAND (IN THE PERSON OF MARGARET THATCHER), AND IN CHINA.

6. OPPONENTS OF DETENTE ALSO CONDEMNED IN PRAVDA JAN 23 ARTICLE CHARACTERIZING BRITISH PRESS AS CONTROLLED BY SMALL CLIQUE OF MONEIED INTERESTS OF RABIDLY ANTI-SOVIET ORIENTATION, AND IN PRAVDA JAN 23 KORIONOV COMMENTARY ACCUSING UNSPECIFIED IMPERIALIST FORCES OF RENEWING CAMPAIGN IN PERIOD SINCE CSCE TO UNDERCUT COMMUNIST UNITY AND DERAIL DETENTE TRENDS. OBITUARY OF PAUL ROBESON IN JAN 25 PRAVDA PROVIDED ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE SOME DIGS AT COLD WARRIORS BY RECALLING HIS PERSECUTION IN 1950'S.

7. TRIBULATIONS OF GULF OIL DISCUSSED IN IZVESTIYA JAN 23 BY KONDRASHOV IN SATIRICAL DETAILED ACCOUNT OF IRREGULAR FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS, PAYOFFS TO FOREIGN CLIENTS, AND EFFORTS TO COVER UP. HE CONSIDERS PRACTICES OF GULF TO BE TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF CORPORATE BEHAVIOR. OTHER CORPORATIONS, HOWEVER, WERE FORCED BY DISCLOSURES TO MOVE QUICKLY ON CAPITOL HILL TO QUASH ANY FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS.

8. LEBANON. SOVIET PRESS CAMPAIGN OF ALARM ABOUT BLOODLETTING IN LEBANON CONTINUED IN PRAVDA JAN 23 GLUKHOV COMMENTARY CHARGING THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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ISRAEL AND IMPERIALISTS WERE INCITING CONFLICT BETWEEN LEBANESE AND PALESTINIANS IN ORDER TO WEAKEN PLO, DISRUPT ARAB UNITY, AND ACHIEVE LEBANON'S PARTITION. PORTRAYING ISRAELI PROPAGANDISTS AS LAYING GROUNDWORK FOR INTERVENTION HE HOWEVER RESERVED SPECIAL INDIGNATION FOR REPORT IN CAIRO NEWSPAPER SUGGESTING THAT USSR WAS IN FACT THE POWER SEEKING PARTITION OF LEBANON. MOSCOW'S CONCERN BEGAN TO ABATE ON JAN 24, WHEN PRAVDA'S CORRESPONDENT IN BEIRUT REPORTED FIRST GLIMMER OF HOPE THAT LATEST CEASE-FIRE WOULD PAVE WAY FOR LASTING SETTLEMENT. CREDIT WAS GIVEN TO ROLE OF SYRIA IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND TO ACCEPTANCE OF TRUCE BY "PROGRESSIVE AND NATIONAL-PATRIOTIC FORCES." EVERYTHING NOW DEPENDED ON WHETHER CEASE-FIRE TERMS WOULD BE OBSERVED BY RIGHTISTS PARTIES. PRAVDA JANUARY 25 REPORTS CEASE-FIRE HOLDING AND BEING ENFORCED BY JOINT LEBANESE-SYRIAN-PLO MILITARY COMMITTEE, WITH STREETS BEING OPENED TO TRAFFIC AND REFUGEES RETURNING TO HOMES.

9. CHINA. KRUSHINSKIY IN PRAVDA JAN 24 EXAMINES LATEST TRENDS OF CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE AND CONCLUDES PEKING IS FOLLOWING A POLICY OF DUMPING GOODS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO EARN CURRENCY FOR THE PURCHASE OF STRATEGIC GOODS IN THE WEST, NECESSARY FOR REARMAMENT. THIS, IN HIS VIEW, HAS THE EFFECT OF STIFLING THE ECONOMIES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND PROVES THAT PEKING HAS NO CONCERN FOR THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE THIRD WORLD. PRAVDA JAN 25 TERSELY REPORTS CHINESE ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW NUCLEAR TEST EXPLOSION.

10. ANGOLA. SOVIET PRESS REPORTING OF EVENT IN ANGOLA PORTRAYS MPLA AS CONSOLIDATING CONTROL AND REPELLING INTERVENTIONIST ATTACKS, BUT SHOWS SOME UNDERCURRENT OF CONCERN ABOUT ROLE OF SOUTH AFRICA. PRAVDA JAN 23 AND 24 APPROVINGLY CITES CONDEMNATION OF INTERVENTION BY IMPERIALISTS IN ANGOLA BY SPECIAL UN COMMITTEE ON APARTHEID AND BY RECENTLY CONCLUDED MEETING OF THE PRESIDUM OF ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY. PRAVDA JAN 25 UNDER HEADLINE "INTERVENTIONISTS CONDEMNED" REPORTS (A) SEKOU TOURE'S APPEAL TO PROGRESSIVE AFRICAN REGIMES TO OPPOSE THOSE IN OAU WHO ARE WILLING TO SUPPORT IMPERIALISTS (AND REVEALING IN PROCESS OAU'S EVEN SPLIT ON THIS ISSUE); (B) HUBERT HUMPHREY'S DECLARATION OPPOSING US INTERVENTION; AND (C) ACCOUNTS IN PORTUGUESE PRESS DESCRIBING SOUTH AFRICA'S GROWING INTERVENTION. DETAILED ACCOUNT OF ANGOLAN CAMPAIGN IN RED STAR JAN 25 CITES LONDON OBSERVER AS ACKNOWLEDGING MPLA VICTORY "UNLESS THERE IS UNEXPECTED INTERVENTION BY SOME UNFORESEEN FORCE". SUCH A POSSI-UNCLASSIFIED

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BILITY OF MASSIVE SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION, ACCORDING TO RED STAR, "CANNOT BE EXCLUDED," GIVEN PRETORIA'S RECENT PURCHASE OF SIX C-130 CARGO PLANES AND THE CALL-UP OF ADDITIONAL SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVISTS. STOESEL

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